

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

May 21 - 27, 2018



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) releases its preliminary report on the fatal Uber automated vehicle (AV) crash in Arizona. The NTSB report confirmed previous findings: Uber had disabled Volvo's emergency braking system, which should have braked 1.3 seconds before hitting the pedestrian. NTSB stated that Uber's automated system was functioning normally at the time of the crash.

SHARED AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Pandauto and Baidu launch a shared AV service in Chongqing, China.

Pandauto, a carsharing operator, will monitor six electric vehicles equipped with Baidu's AV software, Apollo. The AVs will pickup and dropoff passengers on-demand, and passengers can send the vehicles back to their original locations after rides.



RIDESOURCING/TNCs

Didi Chuxing initiates trial service in Geelong, Australia. Uber and Ola are operating their ridesourcing/TNC services in Australia, at present. This development builds on Didi's recent expansions into Taiwan, Japan, and Mexico.



TAXIS

Uber will partner with taxi companies for a taxi e-hailing pilot in Awaji, Japan. Through the taxi partnerships, riders will hail local taxis through Uber's app. In Japan, ridesourcing companies/TNCs must employ professional drivers, which restricts Uber from operating its typical business model there. The pilot will run through March 2019.



SHARED AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Apple and Volkswagen (VW) partner to develop automated shuttles for Apple employees. The companies will redesign VW's T6 vans into electric AVs, replacing the model's dashboards and seats. The shuttles will provide rides between two of Apple's Silicon Valley campuses to employees. A safety driver and operator will monitor performance en route.



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